


Los Alamos National Laboratory Environmental Cleanup Priorities

F. DAVID MARTIN, SECRETARY
NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

January 5, 2012

Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board
Pojoaque, New Mexico


Outline

- Summary of Last Meeting
 - Priorities
 - LANL FY 11 Accomplishments
 - Current Approach
 - Transparency and Communications
- 


Summary of Last Meeting

- Accomplishments under the Consent Order
- Current Priorities
- Funding Concerns: LANL and WIPP
- Status and New Direction
 - ✧ Tiger Team
 - ✧ Core Team
 - Prioritize cleanup activities
 - Re-schedule activities

Priorities and Concerns

- Governor Martinez
 - Legacy TRU Waste
 - Protection of Ground Water
 - Surface Water Runoff
 - Los Alamos County
 - Area Small Businesses
 - Current and Future Funding
- 

FY 11 Accomplishments

- TRU Shipments
 - Remediation Projects
 - Site Cleanup
 - Water Quality Issues
- 
- A decorative footer at the bottom of the slide consisting of several overlapping triangles in shades of light blue and green.


TRU Shipments

- Set a new LANL record for the amount of transuranic waste from past nuclear operations shipped to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant.
- Completed 171 shipments as part of ongoing efforts to ramp up the disposal of TRU waste, and has transported more than 450 shipments safely to WIPP since 2009.

Remediation Projects

- Completed final closeout on environmental remediation projects funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.
 - ✧ Delta Prime Site Aggregate Investigation
 - ✧ Decontamination and Demolition of 24 Manhattan Project and Cold War-era buildings
- Installation of 16 regional groundwater monitoring wells.

MDA-B

- Completed the excavation of a Manhattan Project Era Legacy Landfill, Material Disposal Area B
 - Safely excavating about 43,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil and debris
 - Removed approximately 115 plutonium-equivalent curies (PE-Ci) of plutonium from the six-acre site.
 - Success Story
- 


Surface Water Runoff

- Following the Las Conchas fire, took actions to continue to protect area watersheds and downstream public water supplies.
- Monitored storm-water runoff to ensure contaminants contained in ash from the fire do not exceed water quality standards.

FY 11 Regulatory Documents

- Met regulatory-driven deadlines, including the submittal of 281 documents to NMED.
- Received certificates of completion from NMED for 83 remediation sites.

NMED Approach


- Framework Agreement with DOE/LANL/NNSA
 - Interim Milestones
 - Quarterly Evaluation of Performance
 - Annual Planning Process
 - Modifications when Appropriate
- 

Framework Agreement

- Transuranic (TRU) Waste Shipments
 - ✧ Legacy TRU waste on the surface at Area G to be removed by June 30, 2014
 - ✧ Newly-generated TRU waste received in Area G during FY12 and FY 13 removed by December 31, 2014
- Ground Water Protection
- Surface Runoff and Drinking Water Protection

MDA-B: A Model for the Future

The work at MDA-B demonstrated the efficacy of project management in the application of \$130 million of ARRA funds:

- To create 250 jobs (at peak operational level) to complete the cleanup, AND
 - To clear the way for Los Alamos County to acquire valuable property for future economic development, AND
 - To prove that satisfactory cleanup can be achieved if there is adequate funding and proper direction.
- 

Transparency and Communications

- Interested Stakeholders and the General Public
- Key State Legislators
- NM Congressional Delegation
- Congressional Appropriations Members and Staff
 - ✧ Los Alamos County Officials and Stakeholders
 - ✧ Business Community
 - ✧ Legislators
 - ✧ NMED